

ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH

# ALL SAINTS' E-LETTER

VOLUME 6 ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2016

## LETTER FROM OUR RECTOR



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

On January 6th, we begin the season of Epiphany. Besides channeling some Portuguese tradition into your life and placing your shoes on the Eve of the Epiphany, on the window sill, filled with carrots for the wise men's camels, which the Magi in turn, will re-fill with sweets in appreciation, you may want to contemplate that which was written by the Presiding Bishop to the Diocese of North Carolina, a year ago. With the Diocese of North Carolina's permission, we reproduced it in our Christmas bulletin. You may have seen it but even so, it is worth looking at again. This is what Bishop Curry wrote:

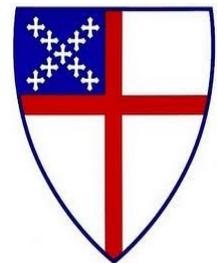
*For those of us who follow Jesus, our celebration of Christmas is an opportunity for a renewed commitment to this Jesus, to his way of love, and to God's work in our world.*

*May these words composed by the late Howard Thurman some years ago be a blessing for us, and through us, for the world.*



**When the song of the angels is stilled,  
When the star in the sky is gone,  
When the kings and princes are home,  
When the shepherds are back with their flock,  
The work of Christmas begins.**

**To find the lost,  
To heal the broken,  
To feed the hungry,  
To release the prisoner,  
To rebuild the nations,  
To bring peace among brothers,  
To make music in the heart.<sup>1</sup>**



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**RECTOR'S LETTER (CONT'D)**

Epiphany is the season in which Christ is made manifest to the world...appearing in such a way that we know this is the Son of God. That will be the central feature of the readings of the Gospel, Sunday after Sunday, until Ash Wednesday, which is February 10th. In today's world, we additionally have Christ appear to all in the form of us, the vibrant and active Body of Christ. People do not just read about him in the Bible, but see him through what we do which includes Mr. Thurman's list above of finding the lost, healing the broken, feeding the hungry, releasing the prisoner, rebuilding the nations, bringing peace among brothers (and sisters) and making music in the heart. In other words, we do things ranging from having various classes to throwing a winter golf tournament in the snow, so that we can make our Lord known. This is the privilege of the ministry given us during this wonderful season to come.

May you have a very blessed Epiphany.

Faithfully,

Bradley

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<sup>1</sup>Excerpt from Bishop Curry's 2014 Christmas Address to the Diocese of North Carolina. Used with permission

**GIFTS TO THE CRECHE DURING ADVENT**

We deeply appreciate all those who brought gifts to the crèche during Advent. Well over 400 pounds of dog and cat food went to the Flathead Spay and Neuter Task Force for hungry pets belonging to those who might be having a hard time financially. Carl Thomas' pickup delivered a full load of food to the food bank. Three giant bags of warm clothing went to Samaritan House and around 50 stuffed animals went to North Valley Hospital to help comfort kids coming into the emergency room. On behalf of all those Jesus particularly loves, the hungry, the homeless, and the frightened, thank you.



## ANNUAL MEETING

**The Annual Meeting of All Saints' Episcopal Church will begin at 12:15, Sunday, January 31, 2016, (following the 11:00 service).** Coffee, juice, fruit, and rolls will be served. You will have available to you, in paper copy at the church and via email, reports and an agenda, two weeks prior to the meeting. And since we are in particularly good shape, once again, it will be a joyful time of celebration. Come celebrate a year completed and help us all anticipate the year to come. And do not despair as the Annual Meeting will take place on the Sunday between the playoffs and Super Bowl Fifty.

## THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Thanks to the generosity of all who contributed to the special offering during the services on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, \$837.92 will go to each of the following organizations which do such fabulous ministry to those in need: The Abbie Shelter and Violence Free Crisis Line which serves victims and survivors of domestic violence. Samaritan House which serves homeless people with shelter in the Flathead Valley and the Thompson River Animal Care Shelter, a no kill shelter in Thompson Falls, Montana, which receives animals from all over the West and is, at this very moment, facing insurmountable veterinary bills to the tune of \$14,000 due to a distemper outbreak.



## CHANGE IN EVENING PROGRAM TIMES

We have learned the lesson after years of experience that January evening weather and driving can be treacherous. To that end we will let it lighten up again and start our soup/supper dinners and programs mid-February. **Watch in particular for information concerning Lent Madness beginning Wednesday, February 17th as well as for other special offerings including an Inquirers' Class.**



## COMMUNITY DINNERS

We are looking for a volunteer to help with the Canyon Dinners.

It would entail attending a meeting once a month as part of the Steering Committee, helping prepare a meal and attending to the details with a team of people the night of the meal.

The dinners are served once a month on the last Thursday of the month at the Canyon Elementary School in Hungry Horse. Dinner is served from 5:30 - 6:30.

It's not just about the meal, it's about continuing the community which has been created as a result of these dinners.

**If you have any interest at all, please call Vera at 471-9157 with any questions or comments.**

Thank you so much for considering this valuable, rewarding and fruitful outreach ministry. You won't regret your involvement!



IT'S ABOUT  
**COMMUNITY**



## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PHOTOS



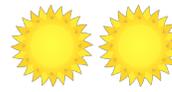
## CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PHOTOS (CONT'D)



## AND FOR THOSE OF YOU WHO COULD USE SOME "WARMTH"



Summer will be here before you know it!



## ALL SAINTS' EPISCOPAL CHURCH ORGANIZATION

**Church location:**  
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Columbia Falls, MT

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[cgraine@montanasky.us](mailto:cgraine@montanasky.us)  
406-261-9636

*Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to him from generation to generation in the church, and in Christ Jesus forever*

**Find us here:**

**Just click on the link!**

**Facebook link:** <https://www.facebook.com/allsaintsmt>

**YouTube link:** [http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ\\_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA](http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCPZ_oAI6n1GwSPS5dIAkzdA)

**Webpage link:** <http://www.allsaintsmt.org>

**Vestry members:**

Rector: Reverend Canon Bradley Wirth  
Senior Warden: Barbara Grove  
Junior Warden: Dick Solberg  
Treasurer: Carl Thomas  
Clerk: Kathy Thomas  
Clarice Brooks  
Suzie Long  
Jan Rayford  
Shawn Sloan  
Heidi Sobczak  
Vera Smith

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# JANUARY 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3 Services at 9 and 11 am  <small>Happy birthday to me</small> 	4	5	6 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	7 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	8	9
10 Services at 9 and 11 am	11	12	13 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	14 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	15	16
17 Services at 9 and 11 am <b>Vestry 12:15 pm</b>	18	19	20 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	21 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	22	23
24 Services at 9 and 11 am <hr/> 31 Services at 9 and 11 am <b>Annual Meet- ing 12:15 pm</b>	25	26	27 Bible Study 9:15 am at The Springs 10 am service at The Springs	28 Noon service at AS Reading Group 1 pm	29	30